Docket: 1879CON3

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant. David C. Racent et al

Serial No:

10/718,195

Filed:

11/20/2003

Examiner:

Camtu Tran Nguyen

Group Art Unit:

3743

For:

TROCAR SEAL SYSTEM

Commissioner For Patents PO Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

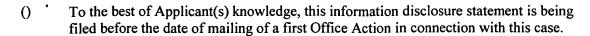
In accordance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R §1.56, the information listed in the attached PTO-1449 form is brought to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of the European Search Report for EP 05024301 is submitted herewith. Copies of the cited U.S. Patents (5542931A, 4978341A, AND 5391154A) is not provided pursuant to the waiver of this requirement under 37 C.F.R §1.98 for national applications filed after June 30, 2003. The foreign references (EP 0538060A and DE 3737121A1) are submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the reference(s) cited with Form PTO-1449 herewith be considered during Examination of the above-identified application and made of record therein. This submission is believed to be in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and 37 C.F.R. §1.98.

The citation of the listed item(s) is not a representation that it constitutes a complete or exhaustive listing of prior art or that it constitutes prior art. The item(s) listed is/are submitted in good faith, but is/are not intended to substitute for the Examiner's search. It is hoped, however, that in addition to apprising the Examiner, it will assist the Examiner in identifying fields of search and in making as full and complete a search as possible.

The filing of this information disclosure statement is not an admission that the information cited herein is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b).

- () This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the filing date of this application.
- () This information disclosure statement is being filed within three (3) months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R.§ 1.491 in an international application.



- () Enclosed is a certificate under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (e)(i).
- () Enclosed is a petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (d)
- () Please charge the petition fee of \$130.00 required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17 (i)(1) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- () As set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.97 (c), to the best of Applicant(s) knowledge, this information disclosure statement is being filed before either the mailing of a final action under 37 C.F.R.§1.113 or the mailing of a notice of allowance under 37 C.F.R. §1.113, and is accompanied by the \$240.00 fee as provided for in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p).
- (X) As set forth in 37 C.F.R. 1.97 (e) (1): That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.
- () Please charge the \$240.00 fee required by 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) to Deposit Account No. 21-0550.
- (X) Please charge any deficiency as well as any other fee(s) which may become due under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 and/or 37 C.F.R. §1.17 at any time during the pendency of this application, or credit any overpayment of such fee(s) to Deposit Account 21-0550. Also, in the event any extensions of time for responding are required for the pending application(s), please treat this paper as a petition to extend time as required and charge Deposit Account No. 21-0550 therefore TWO COPIES OF THIS SHEET ARE ENCLOSED.

Early and favorable consideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Datad

Michael D. Switzer

Reg. No. 39,552

Attorney for the Applicants

United States Surgical, a division of TYCO HEALTHCARE GROUP LP 195 McDermott Road North Haven, CT 06473 (203) 492-8246

PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

Approved for use through 10/31/2002. OMB 0651-0031
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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

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3743			
Camtu Tran Nguyen			
1879CON3			

			U.S. PAT	ENT DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials		Document Number Number - Kind Code ² (if known	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		us- 5542931A	08/06/1996		
		us- 4978341A	12/18/1990		
		us- 5391154A	02/21/1995		
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code 3 - Number 4 - Kind Code 5 (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	Τ ⁶
		EP0538060	04/21/1993			
		DE3737121A1	05/11/1989			
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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1879CON3

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Examiner

Complete if Known Substitute for form 1449B/PTO 10/718,195 **Application Number** INFORMATION DISCLOSURE 11/20/2003 Filing Date First Named Inventor David C. Racent et al STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Group Art Unit Camtu Tran Nguyen **Examiner Name** (use as many sheets as necessary)

of 2

Attorney Docket Number

		OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS	
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		European Search Report for EP 05 02 4301, date of Completion for the search December 15, 2005 (13 pgs)	
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Date

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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